



**CITY OF ALCOA**

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# **MEDIA RELEASE**

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For Immediate Release**

For more information, contact:  
Tricia Tipton  
223 Associates Boulevard  
Alcoa, TN 37701  
Phone: (865) 380-4787  
Fax: (865) 380-4797  
Email: [ptipton@cityofalcoa-tn.gov](mailto:ptipton@cityofalcoa-tn.gov)

## **Robinson Promoted to Fire Chief**

City of Alcoa announced today the promotion of Roger Robinson to Alcoa Fire Chief. Deputy fire chief since December 2003, Robinson's promotion becomes effective today with the retirement of Chief Larry Graves. Robinson began his career with the City of Alcoa as a volunteer firefighter in 1977 under then Chief Clarence Story. In January 1979, Chief Clifford Freeman hired Robinson as a fulltime firefighter. Robinson was promoted to engineer/driver in January 1994, lieutenant in September 1999, and captain in July 2001 before becoming deputy fire chief.

Robinson, a graduate of Alcoa High School, has received certifications in the following fire related areas: Firefighter I, II, III; Fire Instructor I, Pump Operations I, II, III; Fire Officer I, II, III, IV, First Responder (EMS); Emergency Medical Technician (EMT); Hazardous Materials Technician; Vehicle Extrication and Arson Investigation. He has also attended Texas A&M University for Industrial Firefighting.

He holds certifications in the following emergency management courses: Exercise Design; Mass Fatalities – Incident Response Course; Incident Command System/Emergency Operations Center Interface; and Emergency Response to Terrorism.

As deputy fire chief, Robinson received additional training by completing the following programs: Principles of Emergency Management from the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency; the Fox Valley Technical College Safe School Interagency Team Planning Program; the American Emergency Response Training Trench Rescue Operations Course; the Strategic Planning for Chief Officers and the Fire Inspector 1 courses from the Tennessee Fire Services and Codes Enforcement Academy; the Arson Detection for First Responders program from the National Fire Academy.

Chief Robinson's new responsibilities will include supervisory and administrative work to direct all firefighting, fire prevention, rescue, and emergency management activities of the City. He will oversee a staff of 29 in three fire stations. He will also be responsible for departmental training programs and community oriented fire prevention and safety programs. Chief Robinson will continue to serve as the City Emergency Management Coordinator for ensuring the establishment and development of policies and programs for emergency management at the local level. He also serves on the Alcoa City Schools Safety Committee and is vice chairman of the Blount County Fire Chiefs Association. He is a member of the Tennessee Fire Chief's and the International Fire Chief's Associations. Robinson is a board member of the Alcoa Youth Baseball Association and the Blount County Rescue Squad.

Chief Robinson said, "In accepting this new position, I am honored to serve in the footsteps of my predecessors and to maintain the high standards they set before me. I look forward to serving the citizens of Alcoa and meeting the challenges of my new position." Retiring Fire Chief Graves said, "Roger has earned the respect from the men and women of the Alcoa Fire Department and across Tennessee. He will make the department an outstanding fire chief with his experience and knowledge. I am proud to leave the fire department in Roger's leadership."

City Manager Mark Johnson said, "The City of Alcoa is proud to welcome Roger Robinson as its new fire chief. Roger has proven to be a dedicated and loyal employee of the City. He brings with him leadership skills, a working knowledge of fire suppression and prevention, and an expertise in emergency management. I am confident that Roger will prove to be a great addition asset to the City management team."

Robinson is married to Traci (Sager) Robinson. The Robinsons have three children, Rachel, 17 and twin sons, Nathaniel and Daniel, age 15. The Robinson family attends Alcoa First Baptist Church.

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